

see your brother or sister for 24 years. That's how long our sibling visa backlogs can be right now in our broken immigration system.

The Senate immigration bill does many good things to fix this broken system and reduces the backlog of family visas. This means that all those families who have been waiting for so many years can finally be reunited. But for the future it gets rid of the sibling category entirely.

What this means is that if someone immigrates here and becomes a citizen, she can petition for her parents to come in short order; but because this bill gets rid of the sibling category, the 22-year-old brother with Down syndrome would have to be left behind to be all by himself. That's not right.

Fixing our broken immigration system is so important. But let's make sure that immediate family members can be reunited.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY KERMIT GOSNELL

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness about the grave atrocities committed by Kermit Gosnell against innocent lives at his Philadelphia abortion clinic. Witnesses called the clinic a "house of horrors" and described a procedure known as "snipping," in which the backs of babies' necks are cut with scissors to "ensure fetal demise."

Abortion clinics across our Nation take the lives of 1.2 million babies every year. This is murder, and it must be stopped. We have the responsibility to protect the unborn, as well as the sanctity of all innocent human life.

These wholesale murder clinics continue to take innocent lives. The prosecution of Kermit Gosnell is a positive step toward stopping our Nation's slide toward unrestricted abortions.

CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

(Mr. HUFFMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, across this country, we are seeing the ruinous effects of climate change, from more powerful storms in the East, to persistent drought and catastrophic wildfires in the West.

We are not powerless in the face of this threat. We know what we have to do: slow our emissions of greenhouse gases, deploy clean energy solutions.

But we also must do another thing. We must manage our forest lands to be part of the solution instead of part of the problem. Healthy forests can actually help remove carbon dioxide from the environment, from the atmosphere.

We sometimes hear about technologies that, in the future, may be

able to do this, may be able to capture and store carbon dioxide; but we have natural infrastructure that can do it right now. And a great example of that is from my own district in California, the Pacific Forest Trust.

They've been working for over 20 years with landowners, as well as local, State and Federal officials, to conserve and manage forests to capture carbon. Their work with forest conservation easements is paying off for wildlife, for landowners, and also for our climate.

Their Van Eck forest in Humboldt County was the first forest emissions reduction project registered under California's climate change law.

PLAYING POLITICS WITH THE SEQUESTER

(Mr. BUCSHON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I'm here to comment on the administration playing politics in an attempt to maximize the impact of his sequester on the American people and, in this case, the aviation system and the traveling public.

The FAA's operating budget has grown by nearly 110 percent, more than double in the last 17 years, as domestic flights are down 27 percent. The FAA's share of the sequester represents \$600 million of their \$16 billion annual budget, about 5 percent.

Does anyone out there believe a Federal Government bureaucracy can't find this level of savings without affecting the American people? Well, I don't.

Rather than furloughing air traffic controllers to make a political point, the FAA should cut wasteful and unnecessary spending.

Mr. Speaker, these cuts should not significantly impact the aviation system, but the administration is failing to show leadership and is trying to score political points.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

(Mr. BERA of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, I have the pleasure of being cochair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus on Healthcare with my colleague from California, Representative BARBARA LEE, who happens to be here in the Chamber as well.

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize National Minority Health Month. Despite medical advances that save many lives in our country, there's been limited progress in ending the racial and ethnic disparities in health.

Groups like Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have higher rates of diabetes, certain types of cancer and obesity, conditions that are expensive to treat and have lasting consequences.

In my district of Sacramento County, we have a large Hmong population. Some cancer rates in the Hmong are 16 times higher than in the White population, and their cancer is much more likely to be diagnosed at a later stage.

That's one reason why this month I introduced the bipartisan resolution recognizing National Minority Cancer Awareness Week with my colleague, Representative RODNEY DAVIS. We must invest in research, innovation, and diagnosis to end this disparity. I celebrate National Minority Health Month.

HONORING MONTANA'S WORLD WAR II VETERANS

(Mr. DAINES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 86 Montana World War II veterans who recently made their way to Washington, D.C., as part of the Big Sky Honor Flight. I'm so proud that the Honor Flight program exists, and I'm deeply thankful to all the volunteers that made this possible.

As the son of a U.S. Marine, I have a deep appreciation for the sacrifices our veterans have made in service to our Nation. But I was struck by something that one of our Montana World War II vets said while sitting before the World War II monument just this past Monday. He said this: "At the end of my life, I look around this memorial and I see the power of this Nation."

It's true. The monuments that line our National Mall do remind us of the strength and perseverance of the United States.

But, Mr. Speaker, I look at our veterans and our servicemembers, from the members of the Greatest Generation to the men and women serving our Nation today, and in them I see the power of this Nation, founded in a commitment to freedom and an unwavering dedication to service.

□ 1230

IN OPPOSITION TO THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT ACT

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to the Full Faith and Credit Act, H.R. 807. This bill would allow the Secretary of the Treasury to take all necessary actions to ensure U.S. public debt obligations are paid when due and allows the Secretary to forego obligations not related to public debt. What this means, essentially, is all foreign debt will take precedence over repaying important domestic programs, such as Social Security. We should pass legislation that Social Security be paid for first, not